DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

Release Date: March 30, 2005 **Contact:** Richard A. Jenkins **Release Number:** CA 10020-02 **Phone:** (916) 735-1500

SBA TO MOVE OAK VIEW DISASTER OFFICE TO VENTURA

Sacramento, CA - The U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced today that it will move its Oak View Disaster Office to Ventura beginning Monday, April 4. SBA loan officers will continue to provide face-to-face assistance and information to Ventura County residents about how a low-interest disaster loan from SBA can help them recover from damage they sustained due to the December 27 – January 11 severe storms. The Oak View office will remain open through this Saturday until 1:00 pm.

"The relocation of the Oak View office to Ventura will better meet the needs of the community residents and business owners impacted by the disaster," said Alfred E. Judd, SBA Disaster Area Director. "SBA loan officers will be available at Ventura County Government Center, Hall of Administration, General Service Agency, 1st Floor, 800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura (at S. Victoria and Telephone Road) to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA's disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each individual complete their application," Judd said. The SBA office will be open Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. The office will remain open until Wednesday, April 20.

Low interest disaster loans from SBA are available to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, non-profit organizations. Disaster loans from SBA are the primary source of funds for repairing and rebuilding disaster damaged private property," said Judd.

According to Judd, disaster loans of up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

"Businesses of any size and private non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. Additionally, Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$1.5 million are available to small businesses," Judd said.

Individuals and businesses unable to visit SBA's disaster center may obtain information and loan applications by calling toll-free (800) 488-5323. Hearing impaired individuals may call (916) 735-1683.

Applications for property damage must be returned to SBA by May 16, 2005. Applications for economic injury must be returned by November 4, 2005.